REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application. Claims 1-16 are rejected and claim 9 is objected to.

Claim 9 has been amended to correct the typographical error. It is respectfully requested the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by the reference of "PGP Freeware version 6.5", with a date of 1999. The claims were rejected by the software's accompanying documentation.

Reconsideration of the claim rejections is requested for at least the below reasons.

In paragraph 8 of the Office Action it is argued that the "common key" of applicant's claimed invention, claim 1, corresponds to a "session key" of the reference of User Guide "PGP Freeware for Windows 95, Windows 98, and Windows NT: User's Guide (version 6.5)", page 229.

Applicant's claim 1 includes a "central management device" comprising "a management database" storing at least one "common key."

Applicant's "central management device" of claim 1, also includes a central-side encryption unit for encrypting the "common key" by "public key" assigned to each router, and sending the encrypted common key to each router.

Also in applicant's claim 1 each router decrypts the "common key" data transmitted and encrypted using a "secret key" assigned to each router, and the router stores in "a storage unit" of each router the common key. Thereafter, when each router sends data from a terminal in a LAN which router it's self managements, to a LAN which another router managements, each router sends data after encrypts using the stored "common key" as above mentioned.

It is respectfully submitted the "common key" of the claimed invention is different from the "session key" of the reference of User Guide "PGP Freeware for Windows 95, Windows 98, and Windows NT User's Guide (version 6.5)", page 229.

The "session key" of the User Guide is generated for each communication, and is also transmitted to the other party of the transmission in every case as described in the reference of User Guide, page 229, and the reference of Intro, "How PGP works" section, in page 6.

The "session key" is a "one-time-only secret key" to which only one communication is effective. The "session key" is not continuously used ranging over several sessions, and <u>does not have necessity of storing in memory</u>. Applicant claims storing in the management database and the router.

In the cited reference the system may have memory, but there is no indication or suggestion that the system includes a storage unit for <u>storing the common key after decryption by said first router-side decryption unit</u>. In other words the cited reference does not teach the storage of the common key.

In fact the Office Action only points to the "System Requirements" section of the User Guide which does not describe that the requirement is related to storing a session key after decryption by a first router-side decryption unit.

In contrast to the cited reference, the "common key" of applicant's claimed invention is stored in "a management database" (is not generated at each session), the stored "common key" is encrypted using "public key" of each router, and is transmitted to each router.

After each router decrypts the "common key" encrypted by the "public key" for the router itself, by a "secret key" which is a pair of the "public key" for the router, each router stores in the "storage unit" of the router. Thereafter, each router encrypts data sending from the

terminal of the LAN which the router managements, to the LAN which another router managements, and sends encrypted data.

It is respectfully submitted applicant's claimed "common key" has different features from the "session key" of the cited reference of the User Guide.

Further, in the Office Action it is indicated that "a management database" of applicant's claimed invention corresponds to "public keyring" of the reference of the User Guide, page 228.

Applicant respectfully disagrees because a "public keyring" is strictly "a set of public keys" as described in the User Guide, page 228. Therefore the "public keyring" described in the cited reference cannot include a "key" which is not a "public key" as the "common key" of the claimed invention.

In addition the Office Action equates applicant's "common key" with the "session key" of the cited User Guide. However the User Guide itself describes that a "public keyring" is strictly "a set of public keys" therefore it is respectfully submitted that rejection should be withdrawn because the cited reference is in contrast to the arguments in the Office Action.

For at least the above reasons the invention of claim 1 differs from and is not anticipated by the cited User Guide. Applicant's dependent claims include at least the above distinguishing features together with additional distinguishing features in each claim.
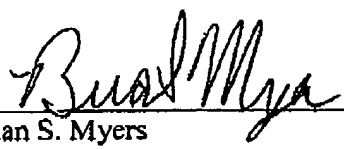
The invention of independent claims 10-16 of the application also has a similar feature of claim 1, and each differs from and are not anticipated by the cited User Guide for at least the above reasons.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider

this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

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